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ASIA-0170

To: Commissioner

Subject: Earthquake damage - El Tejon, Tehachapi and vicinity.

The nearest Indian Reservation or Rancheria to the disaster area caused by the recent earthquake in the Bakersfield-Tehachapi territory is the Tule River Reservation, which is over 60 miles north. One of our foresters (Mr. MacMillan) was on this reservation on 8/1/52. He did not observe or hear of any damage due to the earthquake at this location.

We do have 13 P.D. allotments totaling 1864 acres in this disaster area, some of which are probably occupied. Mr. D. Clark, our Real Property Officer, was on the Mike Magill allotment on 7/21/52. There are two unoccupied adobe buildings on this allotment, which Mr. Clark reported as not damaged.

We do have a small frame school building located at the El Tejon Indian Community, but which is located on non-trust land. Several Indian families live in this immediate vicinity. None of which are on trust property.

This school has not been used for school purposes for 3 - 4 years, since the district was unionized and the children are now taken to Arvin, about 20 miles north.

There are several Indian families living in the towns of Tehachapi and Monolith, which are 4 miles apart. None of these people are on trust property. The Pacific Area Disaster Hdqtrs. of the Red Cross have established a temporary Disaster Hdqtrs. at Tehachapi, to cover the recent quake territory. The regular Red Cross services are being furnished all needy people, regardless of nationality; a canteen has been established; and the local office (at Tehachapi) is now screening applications from families who were especially hard hit and who are really in need to establish what is eligible for their special services. To date 53 families have qualified. However, it is not possible to ascertain at this time, as to whether or not, any of the 53 families are Indians.

Mr. Caldwell of the State Disaster Council stated, that there were few, if any, homes damaged and that there was no housing problem due to the quake. They also stated that the ~~xxxxxx~~ cement plant, which is the major source of labor, had not shut down.

in Tehachapi
Therefore, it should be assumed that any Indian folks living within the area are not seriously affected.